



**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM KEVIN L. FAULCONER
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
SECOND DISTRICT**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: May 15, 2009
TO: Jay Goldstone, Chief Operating Officer
FROM: Council President Pro Tem Kevin L. Faulconer
SUBJECT: Sunset Cliffs Benches

I was recently made aware that five wooden benches along Sunset Cliffs Natural Park were removed by City crews. I respectfully request that City staff immediately take steps to prepare to reinstall benches that meet safety guidelines.

I am also requesting that the five safety proposals generated by City staff, including the proposal to remove the benches, be presented to the community for review at the June 1 meeting of the Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council. This presentation should be accompanied with location options for benches to be reinstalled.

In a February 3, 2009, memo, I requested that the Park and Recreation Department evaluate the park for potential solutions to increase safety, and that these potential solutions should be generated and reviewed in conjunction with the Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council and any other interested parties.

I was distressed to learn that one of the safety proposals produced by City staff, the removal of the wooden benches installed adjacent to the guard rails, was carried out without the community review that I requested. Over the years, these benches have been donated by neighbors, surfers, and lovers of Sunset Cliffs Park. The benches are used by many locals to watch the sunset and constitute a community asset that brings pride to the neighborhood.

I look forward to working with you to increase safety at the park in ways that maintain the community character that define the Ocean Beach and Sunset Cliffs neighborhoods.

KLF:mta

cc: Stacey LoMedico, Park and Recreation Director